

REMARKS

On July 31, 2003, the applicant filed a Reply to Paper No. 4, the restriction requirement. So far, applicant has not received a first Action on the merits.

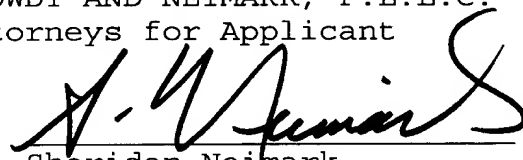
On October 21, 2003, applicant filed an Information Disclosure Statement which applicant requests the examiner to very carefully review. Among the documents discussed in such IDS is publication 2003/0075506 A1 in the name of Bryan Tudhope. While this publication is not "prior art" to the present invention, it is similar to the present invention in certain respects. Applicant believes that the claims appearing in the Tudhope publication, and thus presumably pending in the Tudhope application, are not patentable for the reasons pointed out in the IDS filed October 21, 2003.

If the present examiner is not in charge of the application corresponding to the Tudhope publication, then applicant requests the present examiner to inform the other examiner (who is in charge of the Tudhope application) about applicant's IDS in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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